

13. (new) The reagent of claim 12, wherein the detectable element is selected from the group consisting of boron, silicon, iron and manganese.--

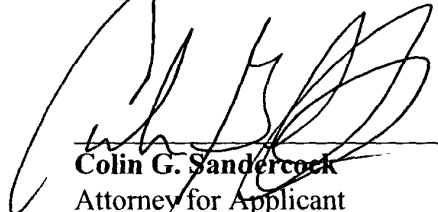
REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of the foregoing amendments prior to examination. The amendments are presented to remove multiple dependencies, correct informalities, and clarify claim language. No new terms have been added to the claims. A first office action on the merits is awaited.

Please direct all correspondence to the undersigned attorney at the address indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


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MARKED UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS

Amend claims 1-10 as follows:

1. (amended) A plasmid comprising a vector[, characterized in that it is derived from] pBluescript KS(+) derivative, wherein the vector [and] contains more than 1 repetitive SK primer sequence element.

2. (amended) The plasmid [according to] of claim 1, wherein the vector pBluescript KS(+) derivative [characterized in that it contains] comprises 2, 7, 14, 21 or 27 repetitive SK primer sequence elements.

3. (amended) The plasmid [according to] of claim 1[or 2], wherein [characterized in that] the primer sequence elements [carry] comprise a marker complex.

4. (amended) The plasmid [according to any] of claim[s] 1[to 3], wherein [characterized in that] the SK primer sequence element comprises the [following] sequence (SEQ ID NO: 5):

5' - GATCCACTAGTTCTAGAGCG-3'.

5. (amended) The plasmid [according to any] of claim[s] 1[to 4], wherein [characterized in that] SK oligonucleotides with end modification can be bound thereto[, which are modified at their ends] by a[n] detectable element that is detectable [under the] by electron microscop[e]y.

6. (amended) The plasmid [according to] of claim 5, wherein [characterized in that] the detectable element[s are] is selected from the group consisting of boron, silicon, iron [or] and manganese.

7. (amended) A method of analytical electron microscopy comprising [Use of a] the step of adding the plasmid [according to any] of claim[s] 1[to 6 in analytical electron microscopy].

8. (amended) A host cell [E. coli cells] transformed with [a] the plasmid [according to any] of claim[s] 1[to 6].

9. (amended) The host cell of [E. coli cells according to] claim 8, wherein [characterized in that]the host cell is E. coli JM110[is concerned].

10. (amended) A test kit for use in electron microscopy[,] comprising[at least the following components]:

- [competent]host *E. coli* JM110 bacterial cells suitable for [replication of a] replicating the plasmid [according to any] of claim[s] 1 [to 5], and
- a single-stranded plasmid[s] comprising 2x, 7x, 14x, 21x and 27x repetitive SK primer sequence elements.

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